

communists arrested in Egypt

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (R)—Egyptian police have arrested 38 people to be members of an underground communist organization, interior Ministry sources said today. They said the arrests were made in Shubra Province, east of Cairo, yesterday. The arrests followed a statement by President Anwar Sadat, who said the 38 had distributed leaflets hostile to the government of President Anwar Sadat. The leaflets also condemned Camp David agreements which led to bilateral peace talks between Egypt and Israel.

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JORDAN TIMES

AMMAN, THURSDAY JANUARY 18, 1979 - SAFAR 19, 1399

Germany to ask for more Saudi oil

BONN, Jan. 17 (R)—West Germany may ask for more oil from Saudi Arabia during a visit by the Saudi Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Ibn Feisal, starting on Friday, informed sources said today. But Prince Feisal's talks with his opposite number, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, during his one-day stay would be mainly political, they said. The question of stepping up oil supplies from Saudi Arabia, in the wake of the crisis in Iran, West Germany's biggest supplier, could well be discussed at a meeting in Bonn next month of the two countries' joint economic commission, the sources added. Prince Feisal will also meet Chancellor Helmut Schmidt during his stay.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

rafat calls for
nity to resist
Camp David

ASCUS, Jan. 17 (R)—One day after Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called for the continuation of the war to be intensified, Israeli and urged greater Palestinian unity to Egyptian-Israeli peace

Arafat was presenting a political programme to the National Council, the Palestinian parliament, in which is meeting in Damascus. The leaders of Patah, the commando movement, and the National Council last met in Cairo two years ago.

Mr. Kaddoumi strongly condemned Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and said the Camp David accords had wrecked prospects of reaching a comprehensive Arab-Israeli settlement at the Geneva conference.

He said the PLO would profit from an emerging alliance with Jordan, and voiced the hope that it would lead to restoring Palestinian presence in that country.

Mr. Kaddoumi also welcomed the departure abroad of the Shah of Iran and called for close ties with Ayatollah Khomeini, the Shah's main religious opponent, who has already adopted an anti-Israeli stance.

He was sceptical about a statement by Andrew Young, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, that American diplomacy was hampered by a lack of effective relations with Palestinians.

Mr. Kaddoumi said "they are stirring with us today, but this does not affect their hostile attitude."

The council meeting adjourned in the afternoon and was due to discuss a financial report tonight.

Palestinian officials said debates on future strategy would begin tomorrow, the fourth day of the conference.

Meanwhile, Syria and Iraq have agreed to unify their foreign policies and to set up a joint bureau for national security, an official announcement said today. It said the accords were reached during three days of talks in Damascus between the foreign and defence ministers of the two countries.

The high-powered Iraqi delegation arrived following reports by Arab diplomatic sources in Damascus that the long-time rivals were planning to merge into a single state.

Syrian officials have made no comment on the reports, but official sources said the latest accords were an important step towards unifying the two countries.

The statement today said Syrian and Iraqi ambassadors abroad would be instructed to coordinate their activities, while the new bureau would supervise security in the two states.

The surprise rapprochement was born last October out of their common opposition to Egyptian-Israeli peace moves, and the two sides have since agreed to set up a joint military command and to normalize political and economic relations.

fan receives

tony Nutting

Jan. 17 (J.T.)—The minister, Mr. Mudar Badie, in his office today Sir Nutting, a British sup-

parent of Star Wars

JORDAN TIMES

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Innocence abroad

The Palestinian delegation at the United Nations has earned a pat on the head from Mr. Andrew Young, America's "shoot-from-the-lip" U.N. ambassador. He has concluded that the PLO team are actually "very intelligent, decent human beings" and wonders aloud how the U.S. should best pursue effective relations with such nice people.

Mr. Young's comments betray an innocence and naivete that is characteristic of the Carter administration, particularly in its gropings toward some sort of coherent foreign policy. It is quite usual for administration officials to emerge from meetings with Third World leaders, for example, or with representatives of political forces from whom the U.S. has previously been estranged, praising their new friends as "articulate" and "intelligent" -- as if they had expected otherwise.

Another American trait displayed in Mr. Young's interview is the placement of "moderation" above all other politically desirable qualities. Mr. Young attributes his enthusiasm about the Palestinian role at the U.N. to the fact that "it has made it possible for there to be some moderating influences present in the whole Palestinian equation."

The U.S. likes moderation. Its reaction to sticky diplomatic problems -- from the Middle East, to oil pricing, to Iran -- is to try to identify the "moderating influences" and to back them at all cost.

Of course great nations must be diplomatically agile, and must, in the long run, retain the right to try to manoeuvre and manipulate events according to their own perceived interests. But they must also never blind themselves to reality.

The reality of the Palestinian position vis-a-vis the U.S. is that the PLO is ready to open a dialogue and that it has a mandate from the rest of the Arab World to speak on behalf of the Palestinian people. (Mr. Young seems to find it surprising that the PLO enjoys such "tremendous influence".)

The reality of the American position is that U.S. foreign policy is -- despite a distaste for Mr. Begin, despite disagreements over settlements, despite an alleged pro-Egyptian "tilt" in the peace treaty negotiations -- a captive of Israel. This is more so than usual at the moment, with the 1980 presidential elections looming on the horizon -- which explains the current push to restart the Egyptian-Israeli talks.

As long as it remains locked in such a Zionist embrace, the U.S. has no alternative but to spurn PLO initiatives and continue to hawk the bogus West Bank "autonomy" plan. If Mr. Young does not understand the reasons for Arab antipathy to these moves, he should ask his articulate friends at the U.N. for an intelligent explanation. He will get it.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I Wednesday says Israel explained its aggressive policy in practical terms when it raided south Lebanon yesterday and demolished a civilian house. The attack was mounted when Israel was about to receive the U.S. special envoy Alfred Atherton and an accompanying delegation and while Israel, at the same time, was planting new Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab land.

With this "very understood" language Israel wants to formulate Clauses 4 and 6 of the Blair House treaty with Egypt. Israel wants Egypt to agree on its interpretation of aggression. For instance, the Israeli sea and land raid on Lebanon's territory is not considered, by Israel's tenet, an aggressive assault; and it is supposed that Cairo would concede such an explanation, Al Ra'i writes.

AL DUSTOUR follows up His Majesty King Hussein's "intensified" discussions with President Hafez Al Assad of Syria in Damascus yesterday that "represent a living picture of the model and brotherly relations between the two countries, characterised by consultation, coordination and objective study of the Arab cause and other issues of mutual concern."

Evidently, the newspaper says, the outcome of these talks will be foremost of topics to be discussed by President Assad and President Ahmad Hassan Al Bakr of Iraq at their scheduled meeting in Damascus on Jan. 25.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Painting Exhibit

The exhibition of paintings by Egyptian artist Ahmad Chiba is on display at the Art Gallery of the Ministry of Culture and Youth. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Last day today.

Children's Song Festival

The Friends of Children Club presents a children's song festival at the Palace of Culture at 4:00 p.m. The songs are in Arabic but should be enjoyed by all children.

Children's Film

The Goethe Institute presents a children's film in German entitled "Mijnheer Hat Lauter Tochter" by Wilker Vogeler. The film starts at 4:30 p.m.

King Hussein receives Canadian delegation

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA) -- His Majesty King Hussein received this evening the Canadian parliamentary delegation headed by Mr. Joe Clark, leader of the Progressive Conservative Party.

During the meeting King Hussein reviewed the current situation in the Middle East and explained Jordan's attitude towards recent developments in the Arab World. He also explained basic requirements for a just and permanent peace in the area. The interview was attended by President of the National Consultative Council Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Court Minister Amer Khamash and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

At the same time Her Majesty Queen Noor received wives of the Canadian parliamentary delegation at the Hashemiyah Palace this evening.

Earlier today, Mr. Clark and his accompanying delegation toured a number of agricultural projects in the Jordan Valley and were briefed on irrigation and housing schemes undertaken by the Jordan Valley Authority. The Canadian team's two-day visit to Jordan is part of a tour that has taken them to Japan, India, and Israel.

U.S. trade mission ends fact-finding talks here

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN, Jan. 17 -- A nine-man U.S. Water Resources Trade Mission ended a four-day visit to Jordan today during which members held fact-finding talks with government and private sector interests.

"Our visit was mainly for information gathering," Mr. William S. Gaines, Director of the mission, said in a press conference. Most of the delegates represent water resource related industries in the U.S. interested in developing contacts in Jordan for future business relations.

Mr. Robert Ball, General Sales Manager for Irrigation and Industrial Development Corp., noted that competition for irrigation products in Jordan is high and it may take some time to develop sales. Delegates, concerned with desalination units felt Jordan, though not a market yet, could be in the next few years especially if water exploration efforts yield brackish water.

Along a line related to water conservation, Mr. Samuel J. Starker, Director of Mideast Chemical Projects for Sanders and Thomas Inc., saw potential in Jordan for soft industries which require no water, such as electronics manufacturing plants. The delegation highly praised Jordan's water efficiency in agriculture and advanced techniques in use.

The delegates met earlier today with Dr. Albert Butros, President of the Royal Scientific Society; Dr. Hanna Odeh, President of the National Planning Council; and Mr. Mohammad Dabbas, Minister of Finance. Yesterday members toured the Jordan Valley and were briefed on the Jordan Valley Authority's irrigation projects.

The delegates, ending a three-day tour which included Oman, the UAE and Jordan, felt the visit would necessitate further trips.

Cabinet gives NCC reasons for proposed tax increase

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (J.T.) -- The Cabinet has referred to the National Consultative Council the government's justifications for the draft law which will increase tax levies in support of Jordan's two universities.

The NCC adjourned debate of the draft law during its session on Monday to await the government's justifications for such an increase in taxes.

The law was proposed by the government to provide financial support for the universities through stepping up the percentage fees on profits made by public and private corporation shareholders.

Jordan to purchase U.S. wheat with \$5.4 m. loan

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (J.T.) -- The United States is to grant Jordan a \$5.4 million loan to finance its purchase of 40 thousand metric tons of U.S. wheat, according to an agreement signed here today.

The loan is to be repaid over a 21-year period at an interest rate of below three per cent.

Minister of Supply Marwan Al Qassim signed for the government and U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Nicholas Velotes signed for the United States.

The Ministry of Supply will sell the purchased wheat to local flour mills and Jordanian consumers, sources at the ministry said. The government will then use the money to finance a number of agricultural schemes and projects included in the five-year development plan.

Phosphate exports 2 million tons

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Jan. 17 -- Jordan exported more than two million tons of raw phosphate for the first time in its history last year.

Total exports in 1978 amounted to 2,160,000 tons. Jordan Phosphate Mines Company Secretary General Taiseen Khreis told the Jordan Times here today. (It was erroneously reported in yesterday's Jordan Times, because of a mechanical transmission error, that total sales were nine million tons.)

Sales of 2.16 million tons last year compare to the 1977 figure of 1.8 million, while last year's total production figure of 2.25 million tons is also well up on

the previous year's total of 1.77 million tons.

Revenues from 1978 phosphate exports are not yet calculated, Mr. Khreis said. It is likely, however, that total revenues will be only slightly higher than the average of about JD 20 million annually of the past three years, representing the stabilisation of the international price of raw phosphate at around the \$33 per ton level after its sharp rise in 1974, when it skyrocketed from \$14 to over \$50 per ton.

This means that phosphates are still the single biggest item in Jordan's exports, accounting for about one-third of total export revenues.

R.G.K.

NOTICE

To Sri Lankans G.A.K. Fernando, S.K. Bulegoda and D.B. Methupala: You are requested to return to work in Aqaba within three days of this notice, otherwise your service agreement will be considered terminated and we no longer accept responsibility for you.

TARMAC SHAHINE

JOINT VENTURE - AQABA.

NOTEBOOK

What to believe?

By Rami G. Khouri

It is ironic that as the Shah of Iran leaves the Middle East for the United States this week, the United States' special Middle East envoy, Mr. Alfred Atherton flies into the area to try and salvage the stalled negotiations between Israel and Egypt. The irony is there because the big loser in the Iranian mess is, without doubt, the credibility of the United States, the same credibility upon which Mr. Atherton now limps into the region, battered and without many tricks left in his magic bag.

The departure of the Shah will complicate the American-orchestrated Mideast peace-making attempt beyond recognition because it will only maximise and dramatise the fundamental imbalance by which the American mediating role is made not only incongruous, but also ineffective, and unworkable. This imbalance derives from the equally fundamental American position opposing all legitimate Palestinian rights, which will now be heightened with the activation of those clauses in the Sinai II agreement by which the United States is legally and morally committed to supply Israel with all its oil requirements.

In other words any remaining American hopes of being taken seriously as an honest broker in the Middle East will have been largely whisked away from the region in the jetsream of the Shah's America-bound airplane. It is already difficult enough to reason with the Americans when they tell us that they are trying to work out a fair peace agreement, while it is their total economic and military support for Israel that allows Israel to flaunt its made-in-U.S.A bravado and arrogance in the face of the rest of the world's agreement on the basis of a fair and reasonable peace -- namely an Israeli withdrawal from the 1967 occupied areas and the establishment of a Palestinian state, in return for Arab recognition of Israel. But now it becomes virtually impossible to sit through more than fifteen minutes of America's song-and-dance routine about its role as a fair mediator and an honest broker while it is organically linked, through its petroleum commitments, to the perpetuation of an expansionist Israeli state.

It seems to me, and to most Arabs I'd guess, that the role of an honest broker and the role of Israel's private oil company are incompatible, if not embarrassingly contradictory.

I am forgetting, for the moment, the debate about whether the Shah was an appropriate ally for the United States. The controversy over his legitimacy is something I leave for the Iranians themselves to discuss, if only out of the dictates of courtesy. It is, in fact, none of our business.

What is our business, however -- and this is magnified by the visit this week of Mr. Atherton and his flying political ambulance service -- is the degree to which one can believe whatever one hears from the United States government and president. The Shah himself -- not the Platonic concept of an Iranian nation, but the Shah personally -- was designated as a vital and compelling ally of the United States during the past two decades. It would be

difficult to find a more clear and explicit example of whom the United States pledged to protect and preserve at the end of time than the Shah of Iran. He personally represents the zenith of American post-WWII policy of supporting anti-communist regimes. And now, as fast as his made airplane can fly, he is gone.

The great lesson from all this, one can argue, is that the United States is going to give you its total support, and gives you a fast airplane on which to make a speed. The lesson was also learned a few years ago when helicopters and offshore battleships facilitated fleeing for one's life.

So what do we conclude from the events of the past week? First, keep your stocks of airplane fuel high at all times.

Second, maintain a large degree of scepticism when the world power west of Europe but east of Japan tell you another week that you are vital to its concept of a fragmentation fired by humanity's collective drive to spread and liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Third, activate a large reserve of dubious who flies in and out of the Middle East waving the banner of love and self-governing councils while simultaneously recting American oil tankers to supply Israel with oil to keep the holy land a region where the fruits and love and self-governing councils are mocked and thrown in the "garbage bin" of history.

Fourth, if you happen to be the president of Egypt, counting on more American aid money than you can afford, people about because your telephone system does not work and you expect this bountiful display of yankee might to drop out of the sky as a byproduct of the process of a Palestinians' legitimate rights, then you should discuss with friends who pass through on speedy journeys from the world.

This is all rather unpleasant, I know, and perhaps it is the eyes of little children and frail people. But it is the of the world we live in. It makes us further sad to see added isolation of Israel and the United States, a partnership of petroleum will only strengthen Israel's real make peace with the Palestinians because the loss of makes Israel feel yet more alone in the world, and more determined, to depend on the only thing known -- the power of its own guns. Whom else is it depend on, the United States?

Until the United States and Israel become more living in peace and fairness with the reality of a peaceful there will be only further bloodshed in the holy land. lesson we draw from the intellectual acrobatics of American policy in the Middle East for the past three thought, but true. Ask the Shah.

Coming & Going

Minister of Education arrives in Baghdad

Australian educator to de

B A G H D A D, Jan. 17 (JNA) -- Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali arrived here today at the head of a delegation representing the United Nations University on a several-day visit to Iraq. Dr. Al Majali said the visit comes within a tour of a number of Arab countries to explain the aims of the university. He said the Tokyo-based university started its studies five years ago in the field of applied scientific research and world problems, particularly hunger, development of mankind, and exemplary use of natural resources.

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA) -- Dr. Rosemarie College in Sombor, Rumania, left here today at the end of Jordan. Dunn held talks with Minister of Agriculture of a number of Jordanian technicians for the Rumanian delegation. Riemers was the agricultural project Wadi Ad Yabis, the Jordan Valley.

Embe sente

EXCHANGE

RATES

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| U.S. dollar | 294.00/296.00 |
| U.K. sterling | 589.00/593.00 |
| West German mark | 159.30/160.30 |
| Swiss franc | 175.60/176.70 |
| French franc | 69.20/69.60 |
| Italian lire (for every 100) | 35.00/35.20 |
| Japanese yen (for every 100) | 149.50/150.40 |
| Dutch guilder | 147.70/148.60 |
| Belgian franc (for every ten) | 100.90/101.50 |
| Swedish crown | 67.50/67.90 |

A judgement imprisonment was passed on Mat Zubeidi for three years and three are employed by Agriculture

The military further approved a harsh sentence of five years hard labour for two Ali Al Ma'ayel, Ali Al Ma'ayel, embezzlement.

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Jordan Today: The Jordan Times interview

TAYSEER ABDEL JABER:

Secretary General of the National Planning Council

Interviewed by Rami G. Khouri

OR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of in-depth views with leading Jordanian personalities, from the public and private sectors, in which they assess the progress Jordan at this stage of its social and economic development.

Q- In view of the general aims of the five-year social and economic development plan, how would you assess the performance as we enter the fourth year of the plan?

A- In the Times - In view of the general aims of the five-year social and economic development plan, how would you assess the performance as we enter the fourth year of the plan?

Abdel Jaber - Let me first differentiate between two levels of development: one at the overall macro level and the second at the regional level or project level. At the overall level, if we look at the national income accounts, I believe that we have performed very satisfactorily. If you look at the growth in GNP (national product), you'll see that we have achieved on an annual growth rate of ten per cent in real terms during the first three years. Of course, this does not mean that this rate is achieved every year. There was a big jump in 1976 which reflected developments in the first three years of the plan. There was a slowdown in 1977, and then we returned to a rate of growth in 1978.

What is an average growth rate of ten per cent in real terms?

It is a real growth rate. This is in real terms. We have excluded the impact of the inflation. Otherwise, if you take current prices, you would find a very large expansion in the economy, but for us to assess the performance of the economy we have to define the expansion in terms of a kind of an index, either a cost of living or price increase alone in the economy to take away the effect of inflation. So in terms of overall growth, we have been very close to the plan target, a growth of ten per cent annually, which is itself a very ambitious rate of growth.

Now, if we look at another figure, such as investments, or how much were spent on projects outlined in the plan, you will find that we have been again very close to the plan targets during the first three years, and as a percentage of GNP we have increased investment package from 22 per cent before the plan to about 25 per cent of our GNP being invested, which is a very high figure, and it includes both the private and public sectors.

Finally, we have been noticing an increase in the government's share of domestic revenues. During the first three years of the plan we have been generating a greater percentage of our recurrent expenditures from domestic sources, which is one target in the plan, to reach some sort of self-sufficiency in government's recurring expenditures, but not the development expenditures.

Do you have specific figures on this percentage?

A- A percentage of domestic revenues that are covering recurrent expenditures is now roughly 80 per cent. The main problem, however, in terms of plan targets that we have not been able to meet is the trade balance, or the difference between our commodity exports and our commodity imports, which has been very much during the plan period, and even before, the three-year plan. But I think we should not only concentrate on the trade balance, we should concentrate instead on current balance in general; in which we also take into consideration revenues that Jordan receives from other sources, such as remittances from Jordanian workers abroad, are where the major developments have taken place during the plan period.

Our remittances from workers abroad come to at least one billion a year, and the tourism income also comes to about one billion annually, and these figures should be taken into account for the next plan period. I believe the next plan should concentrate less on the trade figures and concentrate more on the account balance, which takes into account both trade and exchange.

If we look into whole balance of payments account, it has been going very well, as we have been achieving surpluses over the last few years. This is also to be considered a major success for the economy of Jordan, which is reflected in a strong reserve of dollars, and accordingly in the strength of the dinar.

Jordan historically has never been a great trading nation in the export of locally produced goods. Is it realistic to be able to reduce the trade gap by an increase in exports?

A- In the completion of many of the projects in the current plan, we believe that in the early 1980s we will witness a large increase in our exports. The present plan aims to increase our export capacity and our export capacity in areas such as phosphates, chemical fertilisers and cement. But while exports have been increasing, our imports have been increasing much faster rate, and we have had to use our remittances from services to cover the gap between imports and exports.

While exports may increase in the next five years, the trend is to show that imports will also keep increasing at a fast pace.

Imports will increase, but the rate of increase of imports is lower than the rate of increase of exports. At the same time, we are developing import-substitution industries, which the sector is undertaking, and I believe the rate of increase of imports will gradually decline.

The criterion of the plan is the response of the private sector, which has even exceeded the plan's projections in terms of exports to various sectors, for example in housing, tourism, banking institutions, commerce, industry and transportation.

In general, I would say the assessment of the plan has to be favourable.

It is realistic to expect all the projects in the plan to be completed on time?

General, I would say we are doing very well on the individual level, though in many cases the time lag before implementation could have been shortened, though this lag has usually been a longer time needed to complete feasibility studies and design work, and to arrange package financing for major projects.

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Imports will increase, but the rate of increase of imports is lower than the rate of increase of exports. At the same time, we are developing import-substitution industries, which the sector is undertaking, and I believe the rate of increase of imports will gradually decline.

The criterion of the plan is the response of the private sector, which has even exceeded the plan's projections in terms of exports to various sectors, for example in housing, tourism, banking institutions, commerce, industry and transportation.

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An alternative to conventional play



Donkey games are one of the highlights of the "active playground"

COLOGNE, Germany - "Close the doors please -- Victor's coming". These words are to be found on the gate of a fenced-in patch of land in the Lindweiler precinct of Cologne. As one discovers very quickly, Victor is not a dog that bites, but a black male goat. "But we also have a horse and a donkey," explains seven-year-old Elke. She has been coming to the "Robinson" playground in Lindweiler for the past year. Every afternoon between two and four pm up to 130 children aged between three-and-a-half and 14 years are to be seen playing on this "active" playground. The 4,000 square metres of ground gives plenty of room for "house-building", riding and fire-making. If the weather's bad, the youngsters can go dancing in their own "disco" or make tea in the kitchen. "There's no such thing as boredom here," says Gertrud Grohse, pedagogical chief of the project. And it's easy to see why. Frau Grohse looks after the children with a team of trained helpers, social workers and volunteers. The aim of the project is to produce self-confident, trusting youngsters through a widely varied programme of play and crea-

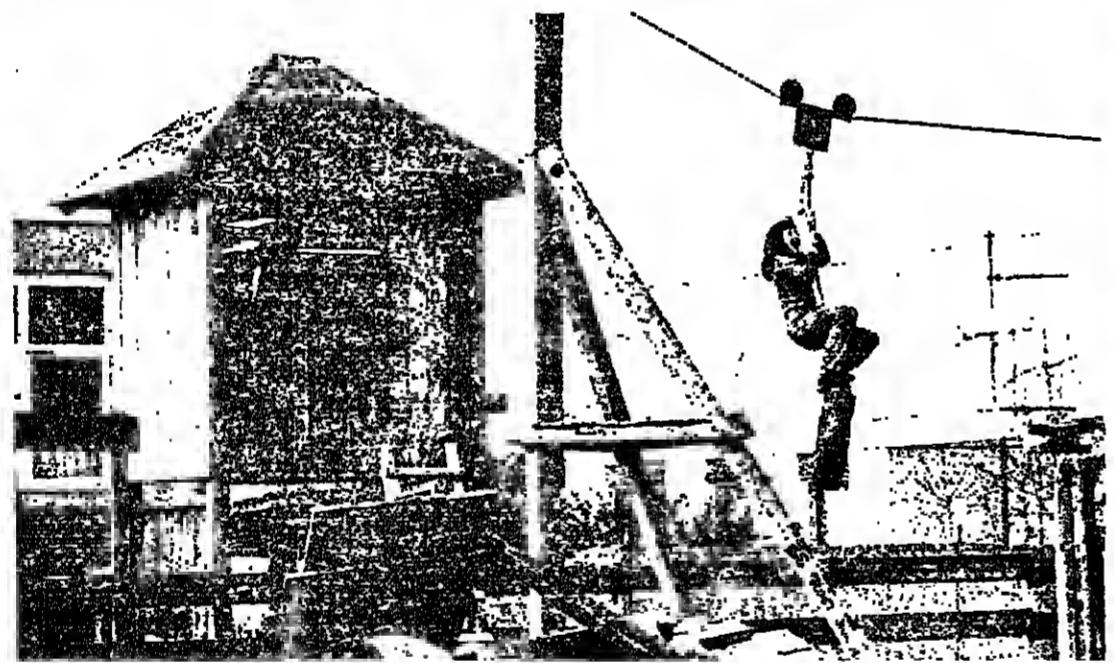
tiveness and to teach good social behaviour. This is not without its difficulties. If there are quarrels, Frau Grohse has to mediate, or at least to make sure that the beloved four-legged friends don't have to suffer. A full-time carpenter is on hand to do odd jobs around the playground, such as building a wooden hut. He gives tips to young "constructors" and patiently explains how to handle a saw or how to hang a door. The sponsor of the playground is the Lino Club social centre. It was the result, in 1962/63, of one of the very first "citizens" campaigns. At the time, the Lino Club limited itself to work in an "open-door" house. But the social problems of Lindweiler -- once the site of a hostel for the homeless -- demanded more amenities. The Lino Club came into being with the financial backing of the city, the regional government and the church. Today, it is a well established day-nursery with two therapeutic-pedagogic facilities. The centre's programme was rounded off with a meeting-place for the elderly and Cologne's first "active" playground, opened in 1972. A Federal Government statement as recently as 1975 said that the Federal Republic of Ger-

many still lacked up to 100,000 playgrounds. This shortage hits particularly hard at children in big towns and the densely populated regions. Play areas, parks and woodlands are not on the increase in our towns and cities -- but road traffic, noise and unfavourable living conditions are. The satellite towns -- known here as "concrete deserts" -- give children and adolescents little scope to develop in the way they should. Existing public playgrounds, maintained by local authorities or housing concerns, are not enough. And they don't offer much in the way of amenities -- a sandbox for the tiny tots, a climbing scaffold and perhaps even a "chute for the others. Ball games and walking on the grass are forbidden -- just as games with fire because of the absence of supervision. "Active" playgrounds, now to be found almost everywhere in the Federal Republic of Germany, can help to close a loophole in the recreation sector. This type of supervised playground originated in Sweden and Great Britain. In the Federal Republic of Germany, they resulted to some extent from the controversy over anti-authoritarian education towards

"active" playgrounds.

Its social centre is

there for everyone; the youngsters have their play area, the adolescents and adults their "open door" and the more elderly there are programme events and courses. Much is done, too, for the handicapped. A communication centre and meeting place which enjoys the full backing and recognition of the authorities, the church and those using it -- this is an exemplary model of meaningful community work which ought to be copied. (INP)



Tightrope acrobatics are popular at the Lino Club.

Mirror, mirror on the wall,

who's the nimblest of them all?

MOSCOW--For three days the best telegraphers from Bulgaria, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia and the USSR have met to share experience and to demonstrate their skill in telegraph technique. The guests got acquainted with the work of the Central Telegraph of Moscow, visited its shops, discussed the way of further perfecting telegraph communication of their

countries. Then the time for competition came. International panel consisting of representatives from all eight states switched on clocks and teletypes came to life. It is hard to believe, that such speed of work is within human capabilities. Irina Glebova from the Soviet Union was the first in transmitting a telegram in English, she had made no mistakes. She was also good with

her second assignment and first place. The second place to Kirkor Kodzayan from Bulgaria, the third - Stan Kukharzhev from Slovakia. For the sum of two stages of the contest, individual and team scoring, the team got the first place. In the second and Poland (TASS)



Telegraphists showing their skills during the contest.



A group of participants at the telegraphists' contest.

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'Crucial gathering' for Latin America

Bishops' conference to begin in Mexico

PUEBLA, Mexico, Jan. 17 (AP) — Roman Catholic bishops meet here next week in what is already being talked about as a crucial gathering that will chart the course of the Roman Catholic Church in Latin America.

The meeting could set the church on a collision course with repressive South American governments or anger those pushing for change in an area where two-thirds of the people live in poverty.

At the least, the conference will provide some firework between liberal and conservative elements in the church. Its importance is underlined by the presence of Pope John Paul II, who will open the meeting on his first trip abroad since becoming Pope.

The Jan. 27 - Feb. 12 Third

General Conference of the Latin American Episcopate -- popularly called Celam III -- will gather 350 Latin American bishops who have prepared for the meeting for over two years.

The theme is "evangelisation in the present and future of Latin America" and lines are already drawn between those who want the church to take a stronger, more involved role in helping the poor and those who feel the

church can best help through traditional methods.

"Celam III, the third meeting of the bishops of Latin America... must make decisions that will have crucial, transcendental importance for the church in Latin America and beyond," wrote theologian Gary MacEoin in the U.S. quarterly "Cross Currents."

"What the bishops decide may not resolve the issues. It will, however, have a major bearing on the

survival of the institutional church, either facilitating or complicating the struggle of the people of Latin America in free themselves from the oppressions under which they have long groaned." Mr. MacEoin added.

The Puebla conference is a direct descendant of what was called Celam II in Medellin, Colombia, in 1968, which emphasised the Vatican II results and put them within a Latin American framework.

"In the documents of Medellin, we find the church for the first time, taking note of the common people, of the popular classes." J.B. Libanio of Brazil wrote in the magazine "Convergencia."

The documents that came out of the Medellin conference were widely described as liberal, socially aware guides for leading the Roman Catholic Church into closer relationships with the poor.

However, some more conservative theologians think the documents did not reflect calm, mature deliberation and that the bishops who wrote them were influenced by widespread rioting and unrest prevalent throughout the world at the time.

Even more, bishops and priests who tried to put the Medellin concepts into practice were often accused of being communist and ran into conflicts with conservative and military governments.

Robert McAfee Brown, a Presbyterian theologian, in the magazine "Christianity and Crisis," recently criticised the efforts to "return the Latin American Catholic Church to pre-Medellin status.

"If Puebla marks a reactionary turn, that development will stimulate similar moves elsewhere in Roman Catholicism and will give impetus to increasingly visible conservative tendencies emerging in Protestantism as well," Mr. Brown wrote.

who see the need for change in Roman Catholic policy feel only the church can help these people get a better share of land, income, dignity and basic human rights.

Organisers of the coming conference wrote a preparatory document that many claim was strongly influenced by conservative, traditional elements. It has been widely criticised as "a subtle rejection of Medellin."

However, lay groups and clergy have met several times in regional sessions and out of these meetings has come a preliminary draft -- more liberal and socially inclined that may well become the basic working document at Puebla.

Now, two main schools of thought prevail. One is the conservatives, who range from those who think social work should be combined with a strong evangelistic effort to the "ultras" who decry the lack of masses in Latin. The other group is made up of the followers of the so-called "theology of liberation."

The "liberationists" generally argue that the poor and the oppressed can only be liberated through change. How these changes are to be carried out is a matter of some very furious polemics.

Some claim all the social structures should be smashed and rebuilt, even that of the church hierarchy. Others advocate more moderate means of change. And others still want "a marxist interpretation" placed on the church's thinking and its actions.

Some theologians also see the influence of the conference stretching beyond Catholicism in Latin America.

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Jordan Times Daily Guide

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1
5:30 Jordan
6:15 Arabic series
6:15 Little House on the Prairie
7:30 Documentaries
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Arabic series
9:30 Arabic series
10:15 Movie of the week
11:00 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 2
6:30 10pm English programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
8:30 Comics
9:00 The professionals
10:00 News in English
10:15 Movie of the week

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on
7:00 Morning show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:45 Morning show
10:00 News in Arabic
10:30 Happy Journey
11:00 Sign off
12:00 Sign on and News headlines
12:30 Radio dialogue
13:00 Radio news
13:30 Radiotheque

14:00 News bulletin
14:10 Music
14:30 Music
14:45 Special on Antiquities
14:55 Special on History
15:15 Easy Listening
15:30 Old favourites
17:00 Arabic rights
17:30 Radio dialogue
18:00 Radio summary
18:30 Album review
19:00 News bulletin
19:30 News Reports
19:30 Sign off

BBC RADIO

GMT
02:00 News bulletin
02:30 Brain of Britain
04:45 Financial News, Reflections
05:00 News, 24 Hours
05:30 Sarah Ward
06:00 World Today
06:30 News from Childhood
07:00 News, 24 Hours
07:30 Sarah Ward
08:00 News, Reflections
09:00 News, Press Review
09:30 Financial News
09:45 Look Ahead
09:45 Network U.K.
10:00 A City and its Music
11:30 Lines from my grand father's letters
12:00 Radio News
12:30 News, 24 Hours
13:00 Special English news, feature "The Making of a Nation"
14:00 News, 24 hours

13:30 New Ideas
13:45 Clayton's Concise Dictionary
13:45 Country Matters
14:30 Big Band Sound
15:00 Radio Newsreel
15:30 Outlook
16:00 News, Commentary
16:15 News from Childhood
16:45 World Today
17:00 News, Book Choice
17:15 What's New
17:45 Sports Round up
18:00 News, 24 hours, Britain
18:15 Radio Newsreel
18:30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral
19:00 Outlook, News Summary
19:30 Stock Market
19:45 Musical Curios
20:00 News, 24 Hours
20:30 A Jolly Good Show
21:30 Paper Back Programme
21:30 Business Matters
22:00 Business World Today
22:30 Financial News
22:35 Book Choice, Reflections
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 News, Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT
02:30 The Breakfast Show
06:30 News, music, features, lectures
17:00 News Roundup, reports, opinion, analysis
17:30 Oration
18:00 Special English news, feature "The Making of a Nation"
18:30 Non Music USA

19:00 News Roundup, reports, opinion
19:30 VOA Magazine: American, science, culture, letters
20:00 Special English, news
20:30 Business World
21:00 VOA Business Report
22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analysis

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS
03:30 Bangkok, Bahrain
7:30 Cairo (EA)
8:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ/GF)
9:15 Kuwait
9:30 Baghdad
9:45 Damascus
10:30 Dhahran
10:45 Jeddah
11:25 Rawalpindi (BAI)
11:30 Kuwait (KAC)
12:40 Riyadh (SOU)
12:45 London, Athens
15:15 Tehran (IKA)
18:30 Cairo
19:00 Berlin (MEA)
23:30 Cairo (IKA)

DEPARTURES
06:05 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (LH)
7:00 Damascus
8:00 London
8:45 Beirut (MEA)
8:50 Beirut, Athens, Amsterdam (KLM)
8:55 Cairo (EA)
10:30 Rome (EA)
11:00 Paris
11:30 Paris
12:00 Geneva, London
12:25 London (BA)
12:30 Athens, Madrid
12:45 Beirut (MEA)
13:30 Copenhagen
13:45 Riyadh (SOU)
15:00 Abu Dhabi
16:00 Cairo (IKA)
18:30 Beirut, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Ras Al Khaimah (RJ/GF)
24:45 Tehran (IKA)

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:
Amman: Al Farizi (142161)
Nazam Al Sikkat (1446061)
Nazam Ihsan (176281)
Irbid: Al Quds
Zarqa: Al-Shabab (30251)
Zarqa: Hisham (81440)
Pharmacies:
Amman: Al Amanah (370551)

Police:
Al Ja'alan (272679)
Al Hadid
Irbid
Al Quds
Zarqa
Abo Shukr
Taxis:
Venice (1445841)
Al Rajah (262290)
Hussein Youth City (632731)

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre
British Council
French Cultural Centre
Goethe Institute
Soviet Cultural Centre
Spanish Cultural Centre
Haya Arts Centre
Hussein Youth City
Y.W.C.A.
Amman Municipal Library
University of Jordan Library
Citadel of Amman
Folklore Museum

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Airport information (ALIA)
Police headquarters
Radio, English Section
Fire and fire, police
Fire headquarters

Tel. 24391-4
36381-2
36381-3
39141
21111, 37777
55205
73111
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19
2200

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hamra Theatre
Al Shab'a Art Gallery
Arabic Cultural Centre
Bulgarian Cultural Centre
British Cultural Centre
Deutsch Demokratische Republik Cultural Centre
French Cultural Centre
Kabanni Theatre
National Museum
Soviet Cultural Centre
Spanish Cultural Centre
Umm Al Qura Art Gallery
Zahraia Public Library

Tel. 226-248
328-327
552-300
552-27
557-001
333-594
333-932
330-604
322-016
114-854
334-500
334-503
334-519
111-318

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government)
Chamber of Commerce
Electric Power (repair)
Fire headquarters
Information
Municipal water service

Tel. 40
118-339
223-887
91
95-997
113-500

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BROADCAST FOR THURSDAY, JAN. 18, 1979

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

By the CARROLL FIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: An effective day for you to decide upon a detailed plan of action under which to operate in the future. Later get in touch with those whom you want to be associated with in the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Go ahead with your ideas concerning those in the business world and get excellent results. Sidestep one who is working against you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 18) Combine your efforts with fellow workers and get much accomplished today. void one who has an eye on your assets.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Set up a social and recreational calendar for far into the future. Strive for increased harmony with family members.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) If you show

social thought for those who dwell with you, life at home will become more ideal. Use common sense.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Have those talks and meetings with persons you want to be part of your life in future. Show that you are a reasonable person.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You can handle practical affairs very well now and gain excellent benefits. Take interest in civic matters.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are dynamic today and go after your goals and gain them easily. Make sure to use extreme care in motion today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can handle private affairs very well in the day, so make personal decisions at that time. Relax at home tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can handle something of a community nature very well today, so don't waste time with less important matters.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A new situation sets today that requires assistance from a higher-up. Take no risks with the one you love.

ARQUATIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be willing to make any changes that are necessary to improve your position in life. Be alert to new opportunities.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have many duties to fulfil before thinking about outside interests. Make long-range plans for the days ahead.

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes

It's later, but when you read the news tonight, you'll wish I hadn't shown up at all!"

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BY CHARLES H. GOREN
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NORTH

♦ Void

♦ A 3 2

♦ Q 10 9 7 5 2

♦ A Q J 10

WEST EAST

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Callaghan tells Parliament U.K. working on 'code of conduct' to curb pickets

LONDON, Jan. 17 (R) -- Britain's minority Labour government, bitterly criticised for its handling of a growing industrial crisis, has promised action to curb strike pickets snarling the nation's supply lines. Prime Minister James Callaghan told Parliament last night that his beleaguered administration was urgently working on a code of conduct for pickets blockading docks, depots and factories.

But in a stormy House of Commons debate he came out against fresh legislation to tame the so-called "flying pickets"--highly mobile groups from the 100,000 striking lorry drivers who have been stopping supplies entering and leaving sites not directly involved in their pay dispute.

With the lorry strike beginning to bite deep and many supermarkets warning that they could soon be out of basic foodstuffs such as bacon and butter, Mr. Callaghan came under fierce attack from opposition leader Margaret Thatcher.

Saying that there was "grave trouble of crisis proportions," Mrs. Thatcher angrily complained that Britain was being run by strikers' committees who decided what goods should be allowed to pass through the picket lines.

She offered her party's support for any legal move to reduce the power of trade unions in a speech which at times aroused noisy acclaim from her Conservative colleagues.

A more subdued Mr. Callaghan promised tighter price controls and a wage policy which would give the lowest paid workers

Blizzard aftermath continues to disrupt midwestern U.S.

CHICAGO, Jan. 17 (R) -- Food and fuel supplies were reported running short yesterday in parts of the American midwest, still suffering from a disastrous weekend blizzard.

At least 50 deaths have been blamed on the blizzard--from road accidents, fires, roof collapses, exposure and heart attacks while shovelling snow.

With another storm forecast, many residents who managed to dig their way out of their homes rushed to buy diminishing petrol supplies and stock up on meat, bread and milk.

Transport was moving slowly again on the main highway across the midwest, but many roads were still blocked by up to one metre of snow in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan.

The blizzard was one of the worst this century in the midwest, shutting down dozens of major cities and towns and stranding thousands of travellers. Nearly two feet of snow fell on Chicago, surpassed only once in the great blizzard of 1967.

Half the city workforce stayed at home two days ago, but offices said more people were reporting for work yesterday. Chicago's

slightly more than the government's target figure of five per cent.

He also backed the idea of a study aimed at giving state and local authorities' employees salaries comparable to those doing similar jobs in the private sector.

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"You have had a better deal than could have been expected, and you should now go back," the prime minister declared.

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Meanwhile, industrial and freight leaders said that in some areas strike pickets were applying their own rules despite union instructions about letting through essential goods and confining the dispute to road haulage companies.

Adding to yesterday's general gloom was the first of two 24-hour

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